

Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund Update

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 5

MAY 9, 2003



Agricultural Development Fund Annual Meeting 2003

At the second annual *Kentucky Opportunity Marketplace* last month, the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy and the Agricultural Development Board held a reception to recognize the outstanding contributions of individuals and organizations that are leading the way in Kentucky agriculture. County agricultural development councils, county extension agents and outstanding agricultural diversification projects were among those recognized.

The foundation of the cultural change in Kentucky's agriculture community has been the grassroots efforts of the County Agricultural Development Councils. Each county's Council of eight local leaders have worked tirelessly over the past two and a half years to ensure that county funds are invested for the long-term benefit of the local producers.

Extension agents and fellow council members nominated individuals from counties across the state to be recognized as *Outstanding County Council Members*. Seven deserving members were chosen from each of the proposed extension districts.

District 1 Outstanding County Council Member is **Avavan Williams**, the Chairwoman of the Magoffin County Council. As a council member her focus has been to ensure that Magoffin County's funds get to the people the program was designed to help, the tobacco producers.

District 2 Outstanding County Council Member is **James Lacy** of the Wolfe County Council. Mr. Lacy has demonstrated outstanding leadership in his county and in the region through his work in supporting the Agricultural De-

velopment Fund process.

District 3 Outstanding County Council Member is **Carla Gerding** of the Henry County Council. Carla has been on the forefront in promoting county, region and statewide proposals to enable farmers to survive on remain on the farm.

District 4 Outstanding County Council Member is **Ted Kuster** of the Bourbon County Council. Mr. Kuster has devoted his attention to ensure that tobacco farmers are the focus of Bourbon County's investment.

District 5 Outstanding County Council Member is **Frank McAninch**, the new Chairman of the Casey County Council. Frank has been supportive of the Agricultural Development Fund and outspoken about Casey County Funds being disbursed directly to Casey County producers through model programs.

District 6 Outstanding County Council Member is **Nancy Butler**, Chairwoman of the McLean County Council. Nancy has been supportive of the Ag Development Fund program as a council member, and has volunteered her time to teach at many educational workshops.

District 7 Outstanding County Council Member is **Keith Harris** of the Marshall County Council. Keith is a dark fired tobacco and grain farmer that has been supportive of new ventures in Western Kentucky.

The establishment of the Agricultural Development Fund has added yet another facet to the job of most extension agents. As usual our agents throughout Kentucky are addressing the chal-

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Cultivating rural prosperity

DATES TO REMEMBER:

May 9—Board Project Review (Frankfort)

May 16—Board Meeting, 10:00 a.m. Capitol, Room 110 (Frankfort)

ELECTRONIC MAILING LISTS

Would you like to receive notice of web site updates as they are posted? Or receive notices from the Grant Bulletin?

If you said yes to either question, then send an e-mail to govkyagpolicy@mail.state.ky.us and let us know which update you would like to receive.

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ADF Board Meeting in Review

At its April 2003 meeting, the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board funded approximately \$2.9 million in diversification projects for Kentucky agriculture.

Seven non-model projects were approved for \$ 301,959 in state, \$35,000 in KCADE, and \$166,151 in county funds. These projects ranged in scope from a small processing plant feasibility study to the establishment of a county Youth Master Cattleman program.

The balance of funds approved were for the eight model programs. County model programs are designed to provide farmers with cost-share funding to allow them to im-

prove and diversify their current production practices.

Bourbon, Clark, Grant, Henry, McCreary, Oldham, and Trimble Counties committed a total of \$146,569 to the Agricultural Diversification Program. A total of \$206,000 was committed to Fencing Improvement in Harrison County. An additional \$164,015 was committed to Forage Improvement Programs in Anderson, Fayette, Harrison, Oldham, Pendleton and Powell Counties. Cattle Genetics Improvement Programs were increased by a total of \$281,206 in Bourbon, Carroll, Clinton, Cumberland, Green, Henry, Lincoln, McCreary, Oldham, and Trimble Counties. Allen, Henry, McCreary, and Monroe Counties contributed a total of \$52,400 to Goat Diversification. Adair, Anderson, Bourbon, Cumberland, Fayette, Green, Henry,

Larue, Oldham and Trimble Counties committed a total of \$541,789 to the Cattle Handling Program. Ten new Hay, Straw & Commodity Storage Programs were implemented in Bourbon, Carroll, Garrard, Henry, Metcalfe, Pulaski, Rowan, Scott, Trimble, and Wayne Counties for a total of \$1,001,159.

At the meeting, two new model programs, *Livestock Fencing Improvement* and *On-farm Water Enhancement*, were approved for counties to utilize with their Agricultural Development Funds. Both of these programs are described elsewhere in this newsletter.

For a complete listing of projects funded view the latest ADF release at <http://www.kyagpolicy.com/news/>.

Agricultural Development Fund Annual Meeting 2003 (cont.)

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lenge head-on, leading the County Councils and becoming the liaison between the council and our office. County Council members and agents across the state nominated extension agents for the honor of Outstanding Extension Agent.

The first annual *Outstanding Extension Agent* award went to **Michael Duckworth**, the Woodford County Agriculture Extension Agent. Michael has played an active role in the Agricultural Development process on the local, regional, and state level.

The success of the model programs depends on local organizations volunteering their time and skills administering programs. The *Outstanding Model Program Administrator* was selected based upon their exemplary record keeping skills and the continued communication

with our office. **Tommy High**, President of the Barren County Cattlemen's Association was chosen for this award. Barren County has the largest allocation of Phase I funds of over \$1 million. The Barren County Cattlemen's Association is administering programs with over \$400 thousand of the funds, and Tommy has done an outstanding job at accounting for all of the funds.

The final award of the evening was one that I hope becomes an annual ritual in Kentucky agriculture. The *Innovations in Agriculture* award was designed to recognize those groups and individuals working to keep the entrepreneurship spirit alive and flourishing in Kentucky agriculture. Many of the projects funded through the Agriculture Development Fund have shown innovative approaches to diversifying away from a high dependence on tobacco, but a select few stand out as strong leaders.

The *Innovations in Agriculture Award* winner in the Individual category was **Jimmy Baird** for his Little Kentucky Smokehouse project. Jimmy is working with central Kentucky pork producers, to produce an antibiotic free, source verified, vacuum packaged ham to be marketed to a variety of stores under the label of Little Kentucky Smokehouse. His commitment to this project and Kentucky pork producers has made this project stand apart.

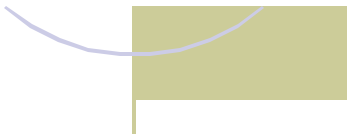
The *Group Innovations in Agriculture Award* went to the **Green River Cattle Company** for their innovative marketing study. Green River Cattle Company is a group of tobacco farmers in Green County who asked the question, "Can beef cattle finished in Kentucky be marketed profitably?" The group is now transitioning from a research

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ADB Wine Policy Statement

http://www.kyagpolicy.com/kcade/market%20development/ADB_wine_policy_Statement.pdf



Model Application Process

From the Updated Application

Model program applications are submitted to the County Council. The Council will prioritize the application and forward it on to the state Agricultural Development Board for final approval.

Model program applications submitted to the ADB office should include the **original** application and one copy, including supporting documentation and prioritization form.

Requests for Additional Funds:

For administrators requesting additional funds for their model programs, the following documentation needs to be sent to the ADB office (original and a copy):

- 1) A completed **Proposal Cover Page** (marked 'County Model Request for Additional Fund' in box 11)
- 2) A new **County Council Prioritization Sheet** with original signatures —no copies, please

Please feel free to call the office should you have any questions.

Dairy & Meat Goat Market Studies Completed

At its April Board meeting, the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board received the final copy of the Dairy and Meat Goat Market Studies. These studies were commissioned by the Board and performed by the Van Erden Group. Mr. Don Van Erden presented the findings from the studies at the April 21 Board meeting.

Mr. Van Erden provided two separate studies for the dairy and meat goat industries, because there are inherent differences between the two. The dairy study looks at both the fluid milk market and value-added processing (e.g. cheese making). The meat study looks at in-state slaughtering, marketing options, and other opportunities.

A copy of the study findings is available on our website. For a copy of the complete study, please send a written request to our office (mail, fax or e-mail) and indicate which study you would like sent to you.



Michael Duckworth, Woodford County, accepts 2003 Outstanding Extension Agent Award at the Annual Meeting.

Annual Meeting (cont.)

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group to a small business enterprise, and is looking to expand their reach to other producers in the region.

Kentucky has made history by investing half of the Master Settlement Funds to diversifying agriculture. Yet this investment could not sustain without the commitment of the thousands of people involved in this historic effort. It has been the individual investments of time, leadership, and entrepreneurship that will ensure the future of the Commonwealth's financial investment in its farm families and rural communities.

Question of the Month

A Council member has resigned. What is the process for replacing this person?

This position should be filled by the local entity, which this person represented: Farm Service Agency, Conservation District Board, or Extension Council. If it is the young farmer representative, then the other Council members select the replacement.

Once a replacement is selected, the new persons information is added to the "Member Update" page on UK's website by the Extension

Agent: <http://www.uky.edu/Ag/AgPrograms/councilforms/flash/index.html> . Also, please submit the name of the person resigning on this page as a deletion.

If you do not have your password to access this page, then please feel free to call our office.

Please note that this person will serve the remainder of the term vacated and will have to be reappointed, if they wish to serve a longer term. The current Council Member terms end on June 30, 2004.

GOAP Website Updates

County Account Availability as of 4/21/03 posted:

<http://www.kyagpolicy.com/funds/availability.shtml>

Dairy & Meat Goat Study Presentation of Findings:

http://www.kyagpolicy.com/kcade/market_studies.shtml

Current Priority Sheet—(everyone should be using this one):

<http://www.kyagpolicy.com/funds/document>

Current Application Forms—Model and Non-model:

<http://www.kyagpolicy.com/funds/applications.shtml>

Resource Links page added:

http://www.kyagpolicy.com/kcade/resource_links.shtml

Kentucky's Long-term Plan for Agricultural Development available on-line:

http://www.kyagpolicy.com/planning/longterm_plan.shtml

Project Analysts by County:

http://www.kyagpolicy.com/funds/project_analysts.shtml

Upcoming Meetings

Tobacco Settlement Oversight Committee

Tuesday, May 13

1:30 p.m.

Capitol Annex Room 131

Agricultural Development Board

Project Review

Friday, June 13

9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

GOAP Board Room

If you wish to receive any of the documents mentioned in this newsletter either via fax or regular mail, please contact our office by e-mail, govkyagpolicy@mail.state.ky.us, or by phone, (502) 564-4627.

